REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified patent application. Claims 58-75, 77-89 and 92-104 remain pending, of which claims 58 and 94 are independent method claims with corresponding independent computer program product claims 99 and 73, respectively. Each of the independent claims are currently amended herein.

The Office Action rejects all of the independent claims (58, 73, 94, and 99) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,177,931 to Alexander et al. ("*Alexander*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,681,395 to Nish ("*Nish*"). The remaining dependent claims were rejected either as allegedly being unpatentable over *Alexander* in view of *Nish* and/or further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,526,577 to Knudson et al. ("*Knudson*"). [1]

Applicants' invention, as claimed for example in independent method claim 58, relates to a client system displaying a particular video program and chat communication corresponding to the particular video program. The method includes receiving a video program from a video source; receiving chat communication from a chat room that is associated with the video program; storing a plurality of distinct user interface templates, each of the plurality of distinct user interface templates defining a video region, for displaying the video program, and a chat region, for displaying chat communication, that differ from one user interface template to another; automatically (without user intervention) selecting one of the plurality of distinct user interface templates for use in customizing display of the video program and the chat communication based on at least one of (i) an episode of a television series included in the video program, (ii) a television series corresponding to the video program, (iii) a television network affiliate providing the video program, or (iv) a network providing the video program; and displaying the video program and the chat communication in accordance with the selected user interface template and thereby creating a customized user interface for the video program and chat communication. Independent claim 99 recites similar limitations from the perspective of a computer program product.

Applicants' invention, as claimed for example in independent method claim 94, relates to a host server controlling a client system's display of a particular video program and chat

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[1] Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicants reserve the right to do so in the future. Accordingly, any arguments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status or asserted teachings of the cited art.

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communication corresponding to the particular video program. The method includes receiving a chat request from a client system, the chat request including a video program identifying characteristic, for a video program, that identifies at least one of (i) an episode of a television series included in the video program, (ii) a television series corresponding to the video program, (iii) a television network affiliate providing the video program, or (iv) a network providing the video program; storing a plurality of distinct user interface templates, each of the plurality of distinct user interface templates defining a video region, for displaying the video program, and a chat region, for displaying chat communication from a chat server, that differ from one user interface template to another; automatically (without user intervention) selecting one of the plurality of distinct user interface templates based on the video program identifying characteristic; and sending the selected user interface template to the client system for use in customizing display of the video program and the chat communication at the client system in accordance with the selected user interface template. Independent claim 73 recites similar limitations from the perspective of a computer program product.

For purposes of argument and without conceding the point, even if somehow the combination of *Alexander* and *Nishi* was to teach multiple distinct user interface templates defining a video region and a chat region, *Alexander* does not teach or suggest that the user interface templates are automatically selected, without user intervention. This feature is supported, for example, in the specification at page 19, last paragraph, in which the server is described as making the selection. Furthermore, as recited in independent Claims 73 and 94, the selected user interface template is send to the client system. However, *Alexander* and *Nishi* do not describe such a feature. *Knudson* is also silent on these features. Accordingly, even the combination does not teach or suggest all of the recited features of any of the independent claims.

Based on at least the foregoing reasons, therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art fails to make obvious Applicants' invention, as claimed for example, in independent claims 58, 73, 94, and 99. Applicants note for the record that the remarks above render the remaining rejections of record for the independent and dependent claims moot, and thus addressing individual rejections or assertion with respect to the teachings of the cited art is unnecessary at the present time, but may be undertaken in the future if necessary or desirable, and Applicants reserve the right to do so.

Application No. 09/296,452
Amendment "I)" dated August 24, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed July 13, 2005

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should any question arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at (801) 533-9800.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

RICK D. NYDEGGER
Registration No. 28,651
ADRIAN J. LEE
Registration No. 42,785
Attorneys for Applicant
Customer No. 047973

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